



LARC



Volume 49, Number 1

January 2009

Please Note: The January 2009 AARA General Meeting will take place on the second Thursday (January 8th, 2009) at 7:00 PM instead of the first Thursday which happens to fall on New Year's Day.

The January meeting will be very interesting, the nominating committee will present their slate of possible officers for the year 2009-2010. The February meeting will consist of taking nominations from the floor and having the election. Officers will be installed at the March General Meeting which will be on the Thursday following the AARA Hamfest in Rayne, LA which falls on March 13th and 14th.

The Christmas Party December Meeting on the 4th had a lighter turnout than our usual Christmas Party although we had plenty of GOOD food. Our thanks go out to all those that prepared the covered dishes. No one went away hungry. Bring door prizes if you have some to donate.

49th AARA HAMFEST 2009 Rayne, Louisiana

Mark your calendar—Save your coins—Clean out your shack!

The 49th Acadiana Hamfest, sponsored by the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc., will be held on Friday March 13th and Saturday 14th, 2009. The hamfest location is the same as in previous years, Rayne Civic Center, Rayne, Louisiana. Due to the success of our opening hours last year, we will continue opening the doors to the Hamfest on Friday from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m.- 2 p.m. . We will have a crawfish boil on Friday with a live Jam-fest delivering some great music and dancing for all to enjoy.

Many of our past year vendors will be present plus possibly a few new ones. We expect great attendance due to fact that we are back on our old hamfest schedule of the 2nd weekend in March. The AARA Hamfest website will be updated as soon as we receive crawfish cost and forum information.

Make plans to attend now and watch for updates on our hamfest website:
<http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/index.htm>

You can also sign up to receive updated fliers via e-mail.
Remember to pre-register and order your crawfish early.

Thanks
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Roland NA5Q
AARA Hamfest Chairman



Time to get your 2009—2010 Club dues to Mrs. Joy Breaux N5YCS - AARA Treasurer!

My Christmas
by Herman Campbell - KN5GRK

What better way to spend Christmas Day than to spend it with fellow amateur radio operators. That is what I did.....

The day before Christmas, I received a telephone call from Fred & Karen Marshall W5MLE and KE5RPI and asked if I had anything planned for Christmas Day. Having no relatives in the state, I said "no" all I had planned to do was to sweep and mop floors, I have to do that now and then. It seems that Karen and Fred were going to Jackie KA5LMZ and Frank N5LOD Price's QTH in Morgan City, Louisiana and I had been invited to tag along.

I must say that I had a very enjoyable day. I met quite a number of family and friends, they had more food than you could shake a stick at and it was all GREAT!

So I would like to say THANKS for all the hospitality bestowed upon me for taking me into their home as if I was a family member.

Thanks to Fred and Karen for putting up with me on the trip and for the tour of Morgan City. I had not been there since the mid 1960's.

Ham radio operators are such fun to be around! They also recognize good food when they see it.

Jackie Price KA5LMZ in the shack.



DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday January 8th @ 7:00 PM
 Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.
 VE Testing @ 6:00 pm - Door Prizes - Refreshments

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Hammond, Louisiana—January 17, 2009

Local 2-Meter Nets

Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

Monday

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA
 Acadia Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
 147.240 pl 127.3 Crowley, LA

Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM
 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5
 YL/XYL / Filly Net 7:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

Wednesday

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
 147.060 Abbeville, LA

Friday

HEAL Net 1st & 3rd Fridays Only 1:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2008-2009

President - Charlie Morrison KI5XP
ki5xp@w5ddl.org

Vice Pres - Dick Melcher WA6MDI

Secretary - Randy Castille N5MLJ

Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS

BOARD MEMBERS

John Martin KA5BSE

Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF

Glenn Breaux KD5NVC

Public Relations Officer

Dagmar Whittemore KE5CGN

Newsletter Editor

Herman Campbell KN5GRK

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 each month at 7:00 p.m. at the
 American Red Cross Building
 101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

Global Warming?

Would you believe it! Acadiana had “snow” on early Thursday morning December 12th. All that white stuff covered the ground from one inch to four inches in some areas, this is very unusual for us to get this much snow in this part of Louisiana. Do you think “global warming” is real? The last snowfall in Acadiana of this size happened in 1988 from the sources I have heard.



Photo of Herman Campbell's KN5GRK back yard.



December 11, 2008

This is a photo of Greg Lavigne's AD5HA QTH in Washington, LA



Left is a picture of Danny Griffith's K5ARH grandchildren from Houston, TX who are enjoying their first snow while visiting in Lafayette. Danny and XYL Pat have them spoiled and they know it and take advantage every chance they get. Oh well, isn't that what grandkids are all about!

Estate Sale

John Martin W5SE formally KA5BSE has asked the LARC to announce that he will be selling most of his amateur radio equipment. Some of our readers may not be aware to the fact that John has been fighting a bout with cancer and the outlook is not good at this time, but miracles do happen. Do keep John and his family in your prayers.

John has been instrumental over the many years of being a “Elmer” to almost everyone in a 50 mile radius by helping them with radio, antenna, operating, and answering a lot of questions. He has been very active in Special Events, Hamfests, Field Day and Antenna Parties.

Anticipating the future, John has asked that if anyone is interested in any of the ham equipment, antennas, parts, etc., that you contact him and let him know what you are looking for, he may have it on hand, items are too numerous to list in the LARC. You can contact him via e-mail or telephone at the following:

ka5bse1@bellsouth.net
 337-2346061

Children's Museum Hosts Santa-on-the Air

On Saturday December 20th, members of the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. manned the Children's Museum of Acadiana K5CMA radio station and made contact with Santa over the airwaves for kids at the museum.

Roland Guidry NA5Q and Ed Roy WA5TNK set up a Skype link between the CMA and Santa's QTH (really Ed's shack). Skype is a free software program that allows you to make telephone and video conferencing calls via the internet. Roland and Ed used their laptops with built-in cameras to communicate.



NA5Q



The way it was set up is like this: Roland's laptop (with camera) was set up at the CMA facing the chair where the children would sit. Ed was able to view the child from his QTH. Ed playing the part of Santa, would talk to the boys and girls over the 146.82 repeater and view them over the camera. He would describe the child remotely by the color of their

hair, the clothes they are wearing, and etc. The kids were fascinated that Santa knew all this information, of course You and I know that Santa "knows all and sees all". One little boy was a non-believer before his session with Santa but after talking to Santa and asking numerous questions, I think he left believing. Santa told one little girl, "I have been watching you all year", her eyes opened as wide as silver dollars and she took off running to her Mom. Do you think her conscience was bothering her?

Cheri Valenti KE5RPE, Art Director of the CMA directed the children and parents into the radio room for the kids to "chat" with Santa. And speaking of Santa, we would like to thank him for taking time from his workshop to spend a few hours with us on making a lot of small (and older kids) smile and have a great day. For some reason we were a little short on participation at the museum for this Saturday. We had about fifteen children that talked to Santa.

It is too bad that I am not allowed to take pictures of the kids to put in the newsletter for all to enjoy but due to privacy reasons we are not allowed to do so without written consent from the parents or guardians.

Plans are being put into action to do this next Christmas, only next year we hope to do a 2 way video feed.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

from the Children's Museum of Acadiana

Skype website:

<http://www.skype.com/allfeatures/videocall/>

Hammond Hamfest 2009

28th Anniversary Edition
(Sponsored by the Southeast Louisiana Amateur Radio Club)

Date: Saturday January 17, 2009

Time: 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Place: University Center on SLU campus in Hammond, LA.

Admission: FREE

Parking: Free

GRAND PRIZES

1st - Yaesu FT-8900 Quad Band

2nd - Yaesu FT-8800 Dual Band

3rd - Yaesu FT-2800 Single Band

4th - Yaesu Ft-1802 Single Band

Tickets are \$5.00 each and are good for both Grand Prizes and Door Prizes.

Hourly Door Prizes

Dealers & Displays

Sign-Man of Baton Rouge

Cedar City Sales

RC Power Hobbies

Forums

ARRL, LCARC, ARES/RACES

VE Testing

Registration @ 9:15 am

Testing @ 10:00 am

ARRL HF Awards Card

Checking Table & "Smoke Test" Table

For more latest info check out:
<http://www.selarc.org/selarchamfest.htm>



Special VE Test Session

Joe Anding KD5CQC, instructor at T. H. Harris Technical School in Opelousas, Louisiana requested a special VE test session to the AARA VE team to take place at the school on Friday, December 19, 2008. The VE team agreed and the test session took place.

The results are as follows:

Timothy W. Amiot KE5WZN and Daniel A. Anding KE5WZJ of Eunice, Louisiana both upgraded to General.

Todd L. Guillory of Ville Platte, Louisiana passed the Technician.

Hunter R. Smith of Opelousas, Louisiana passed the Technician.

Four others took tests but did not make the grade but will try again.

The VE test team consisted of the following:

Danny Griffith K5ARH
Roland Guidry NA5Q
Archie Hill W5AG
Greg Dolan K5LFT

73
Danny K5ARH Team Leader

Note:

The AARA December General Meeting did not have a VE test session due to the fact that we had our annual Christmas Party which is primary a "social and eating" meeting. Our next VE testing session will be at the January 8, 2009 General Meeting.



1/01	NICK	K5QXJ
1/05	ARCHIE	W5AG
1/09	JACK	KE5LAY
1/10	DAVID	N5EEH
1/24	DAVE	N5OB
2/03	JIM	N5NVP
2/04	WESTON	KB5WI
2/04	KEN	KD5YWB

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

WELCOME NEW AARA MEMBERS

The AARA would like to welcome the following new first time members who have joined in the last couple of months.

Monte Lantier KE5TEY of Crowley, Louisiana.

Nick Romero KE5MWX of Crowley, Louisiana.

Kirk Crain KE5UZT of Lafayette, Louisiana.

Terry Broussard N5QA of Carencro, Louisiana.

January 2009 Special Events & Contests

Jan 1	Straight Key Night—All US call area. Straight Key Century Club K3Y
Jan 3	WØCS—Eagle Watch at Mississippi River Lock/Dan 13
Jan 3 & 4	2009 ARRL RTTY Roundup—1800 UTC Saturday to 2359 UTC Sunday.
Jan 4	Kid's Day
Jan 6	K5GTG—New Mexico's 96 Birthday -Truth or Consequences, NM
Jan 10 & 11	North American QSO Party
Jan 10&11	KA5B—100 years of railroading in Clovis, NM
Jan 17-19	ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
Jan 20	KØMIK—OMIK Amateur Radio Association. To commemorate the inauguration of Barack Obama. 44 th President of the United States.
Jan 24 & 25	AL7LS—Release date for move <i>Hot Rods to Hell</i> January 27, 1967.
Jan 24 & 25	KG6FWT—Allied Victory at Battle of Ardennes (The Bulge). Operating from the USS LCI(L)-1091.
	Check out the January 2009 QST page 82 and 83 for a more detailed listing of Special Events and Contests.

New Online Practice Tests

There is a new website where you can do practice tests on-line. It appears to be better than QRZ. The website is:

<http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/>

NOVEMBER ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	4	32	0	79	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	4	77	0	150	N5LRZ Ray
Acadiana ARES Net	N/A				N5LRZ Ray
Vermillion Parish ARES Net	3	17	0	41	KE5JXC Arnold
HEAL Net *(M=Medical G=Guest)	2	* 6 M / 7 G	0	18	KE5JKD Larry

Lagniappe . . . is something thrown in, gratis, for good measure.

--Mark Twain.

VE Testing Info

Beginning on January 1st, 2009, the fee to take an ARRL Volunteer Examiner (VE)- administered Amateur Radio license exam will increase by \$1.00 from \$14.00 to \$15.00.

The Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. usually has a VE testing session on the first Thursday at 6:00 PM of each month at their General Meeting which is normally (unless announced elsewhere) at the Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat Street, Scott, LA.

Special VE test sessions may be set up when there are a number of persons wanting to test and it is not possible to test at the General Meeting. A VE test session will also take place at the AARA Hamfest in Rayne, Louisiana on March 14, 2009.

Question Pool Schedule

Technician class (Element 2) Pool effective July 1, 2006 is valid until June 30, 2010.

General class (Element 3) Pool effective July 1, 2007 is valid until June 30, 2011.

Extra class (Element 4) Pool effective July 1, 2008 is valid until June 30, 2012.

More information can be found in the January 2009 issue of QST on page 96.

Handiham Assistant SM Appointed

Talbert Tipton KD5EJB of Shreveport has been appointed Assistant Section Manager for the Louisiana Section with special duties of Handiham coordination.

We are looking forward to working with Talbert in developing a path forward for his work.

A team of sitting ASM's evaluated the nominees and made the recommendation for this appointment. We very much appreciate their work.

Please join me in congratulating Talbert.

73
Gary K5GLS
LA SM

**HAM RADIO
IF YOU DON'T
USE IT—YOU
WILL LOOSE
IT!**

ARRL Appointments

The Louisiana Section and the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. wishes to congratulate Mickey Cox K5MC our ARRL Delta Division Director. Mickey is our former Louisiana Section Manager from West Monroe Louisiana.

We also congratulate David Norris K5UZ of Batesville Arkansas our ARRL Delta Division Vice-Director Elect. David was the Arkansas Section Manager and is being replaced by J.M. Rowe N5XFW the new Arkansas SM.

J.M. was the Arkansas SEC. A replacement SEC has not been named. Mickey's and David's term begins January 1, 2009.

A Nice Gesture

On Tuesday December 23, I received a phone call from Mrs. Virgie Aubin N5JXV and she wanted me to forward this message to all who know her (if you don't know her, you should, she is one of the nicest ladies in ham radio). She says:

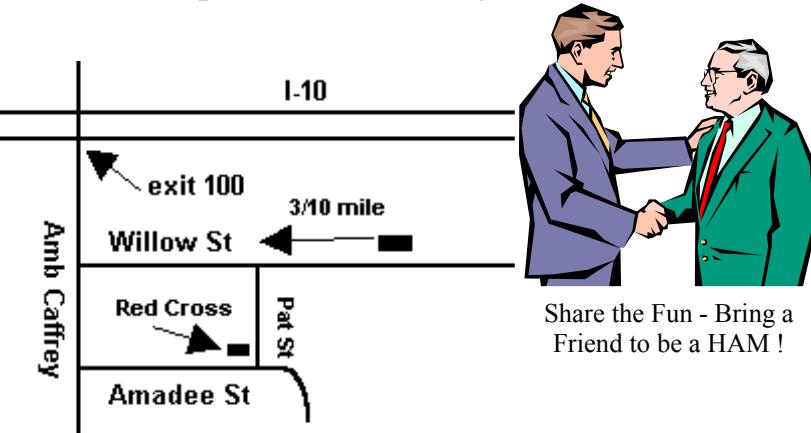
Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year to All!

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



AARA GENERAL MEETING

Thursday January 8th, 2009—7:00 PM

VE Testing at 6:00 PM

Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA

Lunch Bunch

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA

Check 146.820 - repeater for info.

COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE

Hearty Chicken & Noodle Casserole

Reprinted from December 2008 AARP Magazine—back cover

1 can (10 3/4 oz.) Campbell's® Cream of Mushroom Soup (Regular, 98% Fat Free or 25% Less Sodium)	1 cup frozen mixed vegetables
1/2 cup milk	2 cups cubed cooked chicken
1/4 tsp. Ground black pepper	2 cups medium egg noodles, cooked and drained
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese	1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

Preparation time: 10 minutes

Bake time: 25 minutes

Makes 4 servings



Directions:

1. Stir soup, milk, black pepper, grated Parmesan cheese, vegetables, chicken and noodles in 1 1/2 quart casserole.
2. Bake at 400°F, for 25 minutes or until hot. Stir.
3. Top with the Cheddar Cheese.

Send your favorite recipe to:
Herman KN5GRK
kn5grk@bellsouth.net



FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscomm@fcc.gov. Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245